

I only say, as tragic as it is, that the best way to ensure that those individuals who died—over 3,000—a year ago will not have died in vain is by learning the lesson and rebuilding and preventing a far greater catastrophe from happening again.

Thank you, Mr. President. I yield the floor, and I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. LUGAR. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. LUGAR. Mr. President, it is a privilege to welcome a distinguished delegation from the Norwegian Parliament. Nine members of the Committee on Defense are with us today in the Senate Chamber. They have come to the United States this week as a part of an ambitious series of events which will include meetings at the Pentagon, the State Department, the National Security Council, and Central Command in Florida.

They had been scheduled to leave Washington this morning, but they have changed their itinerary deliberately because they wanted to be with us here, the U.S. Senate, in the Capitol Building on this solemn day.

As fellow legislators and close NATO allies, the Norwegian Defense Committee wanted to express its solidarity with Congress and with the American people on the first anniversary of September 11.

I would like to read a letter into the RECORD from the Defense Committee of Norway.

They have written:

To the Senate of the United States:

The Standing Committee on Defense of the Norwegian Parliament wishes to express its deepest sympathy and solidarity with the American people on this day of remembrance—one year after the horrible terror attack on the United States that occurred September 11, 2001.

Let us never forget all those individuals who lost their lives in New York, Virginia, and Pennsylvania, including firemen, police officers, and volunteers who tried to rescue people from the flames.

The letter continues:

September 11 changed the world and international politics. Norway is proud to participate in the broad coalition against terrorism and does so by taking part in "Operation Enduring Freedom" under U.S. command. The fight against terrorism is a fight for democracy, for an open and free society, and for human rights.

Sincerely,

The Standing Committee on Defense [of Norway]:

Ms. Marit Nybakk, Chairman DC, Ms. Aase Wisloeff Nilssen, Member DC, Mr. Bjoern Hernaes, Member DC, Mr. Kjetil Bjoerklund, Member DC, Mr. Per Roar Bredvold, Member DC, Mr. Gunnar Halvorsen, Member DC, Mr. Aage Konradsen, Member DC, Mr. Leif Lund, Member DC, Mr. Per Ove Width, Member DC, Mr. Joern Olsen, Secretary DC.

I know that I speak for all Members of the Senate when I say that we deeply appreciate your support today. Your presence here reminds us of the importance of allies and the enduring bond between the United States and Norway.

During the long decades of the Cold War, Norway was the only NATO member to border directly on the Russian Republic. This "front-line" position imposed a special burden on Norway, and its value as a member of the Alliance far exceeded the size of its population.

The border between Norway and Russia is now peaceful and cooperative. Yet Norway still bears burdens from its history as a front-line state. In particular, it must contend with the environmental dangers created by the nuclear-powered Soviet-era fleet that is deteriorating on the nearby Kola Peninsula.

In June of this year, I had the pleasure to visit Norway following an extensive trip to Russia. There I met with many members of the Norwegian defense establishment, including members of the Defense Committee. We talked a great deal about nuclear clean-up issues on the Kola Peninsula. Norway has been an invaluable partner in addressing this nuclear threat through its support for the Nunn-Lugar program and its participation in the trilateral Arctic Military Environmental Cooperation program or AMEC. Under AMEC, our country has been working with the Russians and Norwegians to safely dispose of the nuclear material from decommissioned vessels.

We have had great success so far, but the challenges of safeguarding weapons and materials of mass destruction are immense. I am hopeful that our efforts can be expanded and accelerated, and I know that Norway will work closely with us to address these dangers.

So we welcome the Norwegian Defense Committee and draw encouragement from their presence here on this day of remembrance. We look forward to all that we can accomplish together, as we strive to make the world safe from terrorism and weapons of mass destruction.

RECESS

Mr. LUGAR. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate stand in a short recess in order that we can greet the defense committee of the Norwegian Parliament, and I ask the Senate and members of the staff to greet the delegation assembled behind my desk.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 2:52 p.m., recessed until 2:55 p.m. and reassembled when called to order by the Presiding Officer (Mr. CARPER).

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Kentucky is recognized.

Mr. BUNNING. My congratulations to the Senator from Indiana and the delegation from Norway. We are privileged to have them here.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF SEPTEMBER 11, 2001

Mr. BUNNING. Mr. President, I rise today in honor of those in New York, at the Pentagon, and in the skies over Pennsylvania who lost their lives 1 year ago today.

None of us in the Senate will ever forget the events of that terrible morning, nor will we ever forget the courage and compassion displayed by Americans everywhere in response to the attacks.

Today, my thoughts and prayers are with the victims, their families, and all of those who risked their lives to save others on that awful day. The despicable acts that we witnessed were meant to create havoc and to test our resolve as Americans. America passed that test. We are stronger and more united as a Nation today than we ever were. Despite the fact that our buildings were damaged, America's foundations remain unshaken. And despite the fact that 3,000 of our friends, relatives, and neighbors were murdered, America's sense of community is stronger than ever.

This morning, many of us took part in a memorial service across the river at the newly restored Pentagon. One year ago today, that building was on fire. One of its five sides essentially lay in ruin.

Last September, I visited the Pentagon just days after the attack. It was a terrible scene of devastation. But today we saw a building that has been completely rebuilt. The Pentagon, both on the inside and on the outside, is better than before. The offices within are busy now with the activity of military men and women who are hard at work in the war against terror.

The Pentagon, today, stands as a reminder of the American spirit and a warning to those who want to terrorize us: America will triumph, and those who want nothing less than to destroy our way of life will fail. They will fail because of the American spirit. They will fail because of our faith in freedom and democracy. They will fail because of the strength and character of the American people.

I believe Americans have emerged from the attacks even stronger and more dedicated to our beliefs and to our Nation. But we cannot let our guard down again. We cannot forget that evil is lying in wait for another opportunity to attack. So far, we have been able to anticipate, with intelligence, any future attacks. But we know the enemy will try again.

It has been said many times—but it bears repeating—it might not seem that we are at war, but we are at war. It is a different kind of a struggle than we have ever fought before.

On the surface, it might not seem like World War II, Korea, Vietnam, or any other conflict of the past. Make no mistake about it, danger still lurks, and we must remain vigilant.

Americans have made many sacrifices, big and small, over the last